

Editorial/Comments/Etc.

A second look at the events of 1989Continued from last week

By Liz Mendez

Last week we began a review of 1989. This week we continue it, starting, unfortunately on a sad note:

Ellis Eshbaugh and Ronald Hager died of smoke inhalation when their Poquoson Ave. home caught on fire in May.

On June 1, ownership of the Poquoson Island Times changed hands. The new editor is Robert J. Kerlinger, Jr., announced former owner William H. Sylvia, Jr.

"Miss Cora" Everhart retired after 30 years with the school system.

Rita Kehoe, Milton Katz and Chuck Sack were inducted into the Order of the Bullpen.

Three Odyssey of the Mind teams competed in world competition.

A survey taken in the spring indicated that most people think Poquoson is a pretty good place to live. We like the small town atmosphere, proximity to work and larger cities and the public school system.

Captain George Carmines, skipper of the 92 foot "Capt. Odell," had the largest workboat at Harborfest. Po-

quoson winners in the workboat race were Ken Diggs, Dennis Dalheim, Timmy Lindsay and Mike Powell.

Jim Kincaid, WVEC-TV news anchor, was the keynote speaker for the 211 members of the PHS class of 1989. Valedictorian was Ami VanDeventer, salutatorian was Amy Stoakley and John Rowe received the annual R. Fletcher Gray award.

Diane Frishkorn went to Australia as part of a Rotary Group Study Exchange.

PHS class of 1980 athlete George Yeager was named varsity football coach and physical education teacher at the primary school.

Weather again. This time Jessie Fay Forrest remembering the storm of 1933.

City firefighters came home with lots of awards from June's Tidewater Fireman's Association competition.

The mysterious white substance found near Ridge Road was finally identified in July. it's mortat - non-toxic and of no danger to the environment, explained City Engineer Kristen Lawrence.

Rebecca Lee Riggins practiced hard all summer in preparation for the Junior Olympics Regionals in roller skating.

The Poquoson Barracuda's swim team held its first home meet in July.

Gayle Blankenship was elected chairman of the School Board for the upcoming term. She succeeds Roger Messier.

Waterfront homeowners can expect higher reassessments, City Assessor Bill Ingram said in a July interview.

Ben Plumlee, we learned, builds bat houses. He likes bats 'cause they eat mosquitoes.

The Poquoson Lions Club charter, damaged by fire, was restored and reframed. Seven charter members still live here: Kelsor Hunt, Sid White, Sam Moore, Norris Thomas, G. S. Forrest, George Hunt and James C. Moore.

Porter and Marshall Booker went to Ecuador to visit their daughter Clair, a Peace Corps Volunteer.

In August, Mayor Cornell Burcher said he enjoys his office, "Sometimes." He enjoys his contact with the people of Poquoson, and he appreciates their input and support. He doesn't like the do-nothing attitude of some citizens.

Mark Boyd bicycled from Canada home to Poquoson to satisfy one of his personal goals.

Dave Nelson was named president-elect of the Virginia State High School Athletic Directors Association.

Kit Taylor had us on the edge of our seats with her story about a tornado that hit during a sailing trip down the Intracoastal Waterway.

Janet and John Hamilton watched their son, Conard, take his final jump in the 82nd Airborne Division Jump School at Fort Benning, Georgia. Twenty-five years ago, John had accomplished the same--same post, same division.

Peggy Smith made a guest appearance on Nashville Now. PHS graduate and Averett College sophomore Steve Forrest fished the North Pacific last summer.

Carol Conover joined the Island Times staff as Cooking Column writer. She succeeded Jean Curtis who had shared her culinary expertise for a number of years.

Hurricane Hugo threatened

to cancel the Seafood Festival in September. A little wind and rain didn't stop Poquoson from having its biggest party of the year.

School enrollment estimates for the 89-90 session were just about on target, the School Board learned.

Halfway through the season, the Islanders football team had a 5-0 record. It was the first time since 1976 the team had done so well.

Mark Vlaun was the fastest Poquoson resident in the Seafood Festival's Run for Quality Education.

PHS golfers came in fifth in the district.

Bible Baptist Church celebrated 25 years in Poquoson on October 13, 1989.

Bill Rollins builds boats, from the deadrise to the skipjack to a log canoe, the old-fashioned way--by hand.

Every person generates 4.5 pounds of trash daily.

Betsy Borders was crowned homecoming queen. Her attendants were seniors Stacey Philbeck and Teresa Canella, junior Dana Adkins, sophomore Debra Rice and freshman Kim Pankoke.

Lavona Nelsen welcomed her penpal from Germany of 30-plus years to Poquoson. The two spent six weeks touring the U.S.

Larry Svihla participated in the Enduro 200 at Langley Speedway to benefit the Sunshine Foundation.

Remember the Major/Minor Subdivision Ordinance? Council, in November, asked that it be reconsidered. Watch for details in 1990.

The JV field hockey team came in first in district com-

petition.

The football squad ended their best season in a decade with a 6-4 overall record. Shirley and Morrison Lawling, Wendell Pollard, Chris Pruitt, Harmie and Pop Lamkin and Rev. Jay Lawson went to Arusha, Tanzania to help build churches.

Recycling was a hot topic last year, and Island Times staff environmentalist Mary Haines wrote a number of articles on the subject.

R. Donald Anderson was elected National Vice President for the Central-East Region of the Air Force Association. Poquoson went over-goal in last year's American Heart Association fund drive.

A December ice storm was pretty, but damaging for trees and shrubs and electric lines. Many homes were without power for up to three days.

The Back Creek Christmas Parade featured Oman Hyne Firman, the oldest working waterman in Poquoson, as grand marshal.

City Council okayed extension of sewers into Priority Area One.

All year long, Lauris Paden's "Poquoson Ponderings" has been the first thing readers turn to in the weekly Island Times.

As 1989 came to an end, residents were making plans for the opening of the Poquoson Recycling Center on January 6, 1990. The project was spearheaded by the Island Times in conjunction with the City of Poquoson, St. Kateri Tekakwitha Catholic Church, the Kiwanis and Lions Club, and the elementary and primary school PTO's.

Voice of the People

Dear Editor,

I am writing to sincerely thank Delegate Shirley Cooper and Ft. Eustis personnel for their assistance in getting Messick Point, Deep Creek and Jones Creek clear of ice during the recent cold snap. Delegate Cooper contacted Ft. Eustis to assist in breaking the

ice so that we could get back to work. All of the Watermen are very grateful because without their help we would have lost many days of oystering, clamming and crabbing.

As always, Shirley Cooper was there when we needed her. Thank you.

Chris Christman

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1990 census to be taken

The U.S. Census Bureau is preparing for the 1990 census of population and housing.

The once-a-decade effort is the federal government's largest peace-time operation. The first census was conducted in 1790 and it took just 650 people to count the nation's 3.9 million residents. The Census Bureau estimates the 1990 count will stand at 250 million people and about 106 million housing units.

"Our biggest challenge will be hiring enough people when and where we need them," said

William F. Hill, the Bureau's Regional Director

The stakes are high for every community. Results from the 1990 census will be used to reapportion seats in the U.S. House of Representatives, state legislatures, and many local governing bodies. Census statistics also play a key role in the distribution of billions of dollars in federal and state government funds for local programs ranging from education, health and child care to transportation, housing and environmental protection.